



October 31, 2006

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Status Report and Supplement to Request for Limited Waiver and Brief Extension; *Section 68.4 of the Commission's Rules Governing Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones; Petition for Waiver of Section 20.19(d)(2) of the Commission's Rules*, WT Docket No. 01-309

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On September 15, 2006, Leap Wireless International, Inc., on behalf of itself and its affiliated entities (collectively, "Leap"), filed a request for a limited waiver of Section 20.19(d)(2) of the Commission's rules requiring providers of public mobile service to offer at least two handset models with a U3T rating that are compatible with hearing aids that use inductive coupling ("telecoil") by September 18, 2006. Leap requested a brief extension until October 31, 2006, to meet this requirement.

As Leap explained in the waiver request, Leap currently offers one telecoil-compatible handset model and has worked diligently to procure a second telecoil-compatible handset model. Although Leap expected to receive the second telecoil-compatible handsets from its distributor prior to the October 31, 2006 requested extension date, due to circumstances beyond Leap's control, these handsets will not be available at Leap's retail outlets until early in November 2006. The reason for the delay in the launch of the second handset is the manufacturer's failure to pass the inventory acceptance inspection for the device. This failure to meet the inspection requirements, however, is unrelated to the handset's hearing aid compatibility, and instead impacts hardware and software approval, as well as the cosmetic appearance of the device. This type of inspection failure typically delays a product launch for one to two weeks.

Accordingly, Leap respectfully requests an additional extension of the September 18, 2006 deadline until November 30, 2006. This brief extension will allow ample time for the manufacturer to resolve any deficiencies uncovered in the inventory inspection process and for the handsets to be delivered to Leap's retail outlets.

If you have any questions regarding this submission, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Itkin
Director, Government Affairs